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ABSTRACT

This book examines the ideas of Antonio Gramsci and Paulo Freire regarding radical education and adult education's role in the struggle for liberation from oppression. Chapter 1 provides an overview of the following topics: Gramsci and Freire's theories; publications about both men in the adult education literature; and the principles of transformative adult education. Chapter 2 focuses on the following aspects of Gramsci's views on adult education: relationship between hegemony and education; agency; and sites of practice, social relations, and content. Five aspects of Freire's thinking regarding adult education are explored in chapter 3: political pedagogy; agency; liberation theology, and Marxism; democratic education; agents of change; and sites of practice and content. Chapter 4 presents a biographical and contextual comparison of Gramsci and Freire and identifies parallels in and differences between their ideas. Chapters 5-7 discuss these topics: limitations in the thinking of Gramsci and Freire (class and other forms of social difference, contestation and cooptation, information technology); a Gramscian-Freirean synthesis and beyond (commitment, agency, social movements, adult educators, cultural production, history); and transformative adult education in context (limits and possibilities of social transformation; prerevolutionary context, cultural revolution). The book contains 368 references. (MN)

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